

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for *in vivo* expression of an immunogen comprising:
administering a bacterial host cell to a mammal, wherein said host cell comprises a polynucleotide encoding an immunogen, wherein the polynucleotide is within the host cell genome, within a plasmid, or within a replicon, wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen, and wherein the immunogen is expressed *in vivo* by cells of the mammal.
2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen due to heat treatment.
3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen due to ultra-violet light exposure.
4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen due to hydrogen peroxide treatment.
5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein a plasmid comprises the polynucleotide encoding the immunogen.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide encoding the immunogen is incorporated into the host cell genome.
7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the expressed immunogen generates an immune response in the mammal.
8. (previously presented) A method of generating an immune response in a mammal comprising:

administering a bacterial host cell to said mammal, wherein said host cell comprises a polynucleotide encoding an immunogen, wherein the host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen, wherein the immunogen is expressed *in vivo* by cells of the mammal, thereby generating an immune response in the mammal against the immunogen.
9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen due to heat treatment.
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen due to ultraviolet light exposure.
11. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the bacterial host cell is unable to use its own machinery to express the encoded immunogen due to hydrogen peroxide treatment.

12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein a plasmid comprises the polynucleotide encoding the immunogen.
13. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the polynucleotide encoding the immunogen is incorporated into the host cell genome.
- 14-24. (canceled)
25. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the bacterial host cell is selected from the group consisting of *E. coli*, *Shigella spp*, *Bordella spp*, *Salmonella spp*, *Bacillus spp*, *Streptococcus spp*, and *Mycobacteria spp*.
26. (withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the bacterial host cell is *E. coli*.
27. (previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the bacterial host cell is *Shigella flexneri*.
28. (withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the bacterial host cell is *Mycobacterium bovis*.
29. (withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the bacterial host cell is *Salmonella typhi* TY21a.

30-35. (canceled)

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the bacterial host cell is selected from the group consisting of *E. coli*, *Shigella spp*, *Bordella spp*, *Salmonella spp*, *Bacillus spp*, *Streptococcus spp*, and *Mycobacteria spp*.

37. (withdrawn-currently amended) The method of claim 36 wherein the bacterial host cell is *E. coli*.

38. (currently amended) The method of claim 36 wherein the bacterial host cell is *Shigella flexneri*.

39. (withdrawn-currently amended) The method of claim 36 wherein the bacterial host cell is *Mycobacterium bovis*.

40. (withdrawn-currently amended) The method of claim 36 wherein the bacterial host cell is *Salmonella typhi* TY21a.

41- 44. (canceled)

45. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide encoding an immunogen is integrated within the host cell genome.

- 46. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide encoding an immunogen is within a plasmid.
- 47. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the replicon is a DNA replicon.
- 48. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the replicon is an RNA replicon.